

**MINUTES
MACOMB COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 6, 2007**

President Bucci began the meeting at 12 Noon held at Freedom Hill County Park.

ROLL CALL

Dino F. Bucci, Jr., President
Ann E. Klein, Vice-President
William J. Revoir, Secretary
Marvin E. Sauger, Sergeant at Arms,
Phillip A. DiMaria
Anthony J. Lipinski
Timothy M. Malone
Robert M. Sawicki
Gene Schabath, (Rep. Mr. Marrocco)
Betty Slinde
Ruthie Stevenson

Others Present:

Anthony G. Casasanta, David Humbyrd and Sharon Quinn of Parks & Recreation; Jim Meyerand, Corporation Counsel; Maria Zardis, Macomb Grants Coordinator; Sgt. Mark Oermann, Sheriff Department

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SCHABATH, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER SAUGER WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA BY MOVING UP OTHER AFTER PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR A PRESENTATION BY SGT. OERMANN, SHERIFF DEPARTMENT. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Fran Parker of Sterling Heights asked about additional costs with the use of the double trailer at the concert venue and who pays for the huge light that is on all night, and asked about costs of utilities. Ms. Parker asked why the light is on at 16 Mile Road going west near Utica Road.

OTHER

Sgt. Oermann of the Sheriff Department read a thank you letter on behalf of the Fallen Heroes Memorial Committee indicating the police/fire memorial project will not be complete in 2007, but fundraising is continuing and they are half way to projected amount of \$60,000 and will complete the project as soon as possible. Copy attached.

Discussion ensued.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER SCHABATH WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2007. MOTION CARRIED.

BUDGET REPORT

Mr. Casasanta reported on the tree stump removal project for removing emerald ash trees in the Park and reported an expenditure would show next month and also the Park is continuing to receive revenues for grounds rentals.

Commissioner Malone asked to see utility costs on the amphitheater for 2006 and 2007. Mr. Casasanta responded he would make the reports available at the next meeting.

Mr. Humbyrd, Park Foreman, responded to Commissioner Klein's question on tree removal by stating the project would involve stump removal of over 40 trees at \$1,100.

Commissioner Revoir asked for further details on the total revenue amount on page 4 in the budget report.

Mr. Casasanta explained that the Finance Department reflects the Park Commission budget based on projected revenue.

A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KLEIN, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER DIMARIA WAS MADE TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE BUDGET REPORT. MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Casasanta asked if the Commission had any questions about the facility usage for May and June, and referred to the letter of request for temporary Park Aide II, as well as, the letter by Mr. Bommarito regarding the fireworks.

Commissioner Klein asked if Mr. Casasanta received approval on the request for a temporary Park Aide II. Mr. Casasanta replied he had not received a response, yet.

Commissioner Stevenson inquired as to how the food donations will be handled during the 4th of July event.

Discussion ensued.

President Bucci requested Mr. Casasanta contact Sue Figurski of the Macomb County Food Bank to make arrangements for the 4th of July canned goods donation effort.

Commissioner Malone inquired about further advertising of the food drive.

Commissioner Revoir asked if contact would be made with Phil Frame of Macomb County for 4th of July event. Ms. Moro, Advertising/Publicist for the Park, responded she would be in contact with him.

A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER SAUGER WAS MADE TO RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Macomb County Grant Coordinator

Maria Zardis, Grants Coordinator, of Macomb County Planning and Economic Development, introduced herself to the Commission. Ms. Zardis offered assistance as a resource for grant funding and help to implement goals in the Master Plan. Mr. Zardis stated the department has worked with Mr. Casasanta on other recreational endeavors in the past. Ms. Zardis expressed the hard work left by the Park Commission is to prioritize the objectives of the Master Plan and emphasized page 74 in the Master Plan.

Commissioner Klein complimented Ms. Zardis for her great work on the Planning Commission and also extended thanks to Mr. Santoro with the Master Plan.

Commissioner DiMaria requested that Ms. Zardis not limit research for grants to land acquisitions.

Mr. Casasanta stated we have been successful with grant applications in the past.

Commissioner Slinde commented that she would like to have Ms. Zardis really push in obtaining grants for the Park.

Commissioner Lipinski stated he hopes that Ms. Zardis would become familiar with our Plan and makes this board available of any grants that would correspond with the Master Plan, not just for land acquisition.

Ms. Zardis stated she reports potential grants to departments on a daily basis. She further commented that as the Park Commission specifically defines what they want to move forward with, opportunities may open up a bit more in terms of what else might be available in the way of grants.

Commissioner Slinde made a point of information and stated that Commissioner Lipinski has applied for a grant for Roseville Parks and inquired on the status of the grant.

Commissioner Lipinski responded that it is a DNR trust fund grant, basically for a trail within a park that is enclosed, seeking to add some playground equipment and install a skate park with 30% matching funds.

Commissioner Sauger stated it would be good to have a contact person at the State level in order to know what grants are available.

Ms. Zardis suggested that once the Master Plan has been approved by the State that it be sent to all elected officials so that they may help push for things.

Commissioner Revoir stated he would like to see coordination between Planning and Mr. Casasanta in looking for grant dollars to develop this Park and not restrict our objectives.

Further discussion continued.

Commissioner Klein stated that page 74 of the Master Plan regards to prioritizing should definitely be placed on the Parks Commission agenda.

A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DIMARIA, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER REVOIR WAS MADE TO RECEIVE AND FILE GRANT COORDINATOR'S PRESENTATION. MOTION CARRIED.

4TH of July Fireworks

Mr. Casasanta reported that he is moving forward after receiving the donation from DaimlerChrysler during the press conference held here last week and will be following up with Zambelli on the display.

Commissioner Klein asked if any other donations have come forward for the fireworks event and Mr. Casasanta responded that there have not been any more donations received by the Park.

A MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KLEIN, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER SAUGER TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE PARK ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

American MotorCity Classics Charity Car Show, September 7 & 8, 2007

Mr. Meyerand asked for information on the Sponsor's letter mentioning the amphitheater. Mr. Humbyrd responded they will be renting the park grounds and applying the usual rental rates and indicated to the sponsor any interest for the amphitheater would need to be addressed with Hillside.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SAUGER, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER KLEIN APPROVING THE AMERICAN MOTORCITY CLASSICS CHARITY CAR SHOW SEPTEMBER 7 & 8, 2007. MOTION CARRIED.

OTHER

Commissioner DiMaria asked about the progress on flea markets at the Park. President Bucci stated that the current operator of flea markets chose not to honor the contract as they complained about the deposit and having to provide a list of vendors. Corporation Counsel recently was informed no one is signing a contract for outdoor markets.

Commissioner DiMaria complimented Tracey Moro on the nice graphics display for the fireworks event.

Commissioner Schabath asked if Commissioner Sawicki could find out on why the light is on westbound 16 Mile Road near Utica Road.

Commissioner Klein asked if DaimlerChrysler would have vehicles on display during the Fireworks event. Mr. Casasanta responded he did not receive that kind of information.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER SAUGER, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER KLEIN TO ADJOURN THE PARKS COMMISSIONER MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

President Bucci adjourned the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

William J. Revoir, Secretary
Macomb County Parks & Recreation Commission

WJR/sq